

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the prior version of the claims with the following in which claims 2, 30, 31 have been cancelled, claims 20 and 25 have been amended and new claim 43 has been added.

1. Cancelled.
2. Cancelled
3. Cancelled.
4. Cancelled.
5. Cancelled.
6. Cancelled.
7. Cancelled.
8. Cancelled.
9. Cancelled.
10. Cancelled.
11. Cancelled.
12. Cancelled.
13. Cancelled.
14. Cancelled.
15. Cancelled.
16. Cancelled.
17. Cancelled.
18. Cancelled.
19. Cancelled.

20. (Currently Amended) A differential signal terminal assembly for insertion into an opening of a connector housing, the connector housing including an interior surface that encompasses the connector housing opening, the interior surface further being coated with a conductive material that when connected to a ground circuit, forms a reference ground that surrounds the terminal assembly, said terminal assembly including:

an insulative body with a base portion and an upstanding wall portion, the base portion

having a first width and the wall portion having a second width, the second width being less than the first width, thereby giving the insulative body an L-shaped configuration when viewed from a side thereof; and,

10 a pair of conductive differential signal terminals, each of said terminals including a body portion, a tail portion and a contact portion, the terminal body portions being supported in a spaced-apart fashion by said insulative body portion, the terminal tail portions extending out from said body base portion and the terminal contact portions being disposed along said upstanding wall portion, said upstanding wall portion including a pair of slots disposed therein, portions of said terminal body portions extending lengthwise in said slots and said terminal
15 contact portions being biased outwardly so that they extend partially out of said slots.

21. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein each of said terminals has an L-shaped configuration when viewed from a side thereof.
22. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminal tail and body portions extend at angles to each other.
23. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminal body portion interconnect said terminal tail and contact portions together.
24. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminal tail and contact portions are disposed at opposing ends of said terminals.
25. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminal tail portions include surface mount tails.
26. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein terminal contact portions include semi-circular contact surfaces.
27. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminals are

vertically cantilevered from said insulative base body portion.

28. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 27, wherein said terminal contact portions are biased so that they extend away from said insulative body upstanding wall portion.
 29. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said insulative body portion is formed from a dielectric material.
 30. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said difference in said first and second widths of said insulative body portion defines a cavity when said terminal assembly is inserted into said connector housing opening, the cavity receiving a portion of another terminal assembly of an opposing, mating connector.
 31. Cancelled.
 32. Cancelled.
 33. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminals are stitched into said insulative body portion.
 34. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 20, wherein said terminals are insulative body portion is molded around said terminals.
 35. (Currently Amended) A differential signal pair terminal assembly, comprising:
 - an insulative body portion including a base portion and a wall portion extending therefrom, the wall portion having a pair of slots formed therein extending for a length of said wall portion; and,
- 5 a pair of conductive terminals for carrying differential signals, the terminals having tail portions and body portions that terminate in free ends, the free ends of said terminals including contact portions, the terminal body portions being supported by the insulative body base portion, the terminal free ends extending from said insulative body base portion in a cantilevered fashion,

portions of said terminal body portions extending lengthwise within said insulative body wall portion slots.

36. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein said contact portions are biased so that they extend at least partially outwardly from said slots.
37. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein terminal contact portions include semi-circular contact surfaces.
38. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein said terminal tail portions include surface mount tails.
39. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 38, wherein said terminal tail portions extend parallel to said insulative body base portion and said terminal body portions extend parallel to said insulative body wall portion.
40. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein said terminal tail portions extend in a first direction and said terminal body portion extend in a second direction, at an angle to said first direction.
41. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein said insulative body portion has an L-shaped configuration when viewed from a side thereof.
42. (Original) The differential signal terminal assembly of claim 35, wherein said insulative body base portion has a first width and said insulative body wall portion has a second width that is less than the first width, the difference in widths defining a stepped configuration of said insulative body portion.
43. (New) A differential signal terminal assembly for insertion into an opening of a connector housing, the connector housing including an interior surface that encompasses the connector

housing opening, the interior surface further being coated with a conductive material that when connected to a ground circuit, forms a reference ground that surrounds the terminal assembly, said terminal assembly including:

an insulative body with a base portion and an upstanding wall portion, the base portion having a first width and the wall portion having a second width, the second width being less than the first width, thereby giving the insulative body an L-shaped configuration when viewed from a side thereof;

a pair of conductive differential signal terminals, each of said terminals including a body portion, a tail portion and a contact portion, the terminal body portions being supported in a spaced-apart fashion by said insulative body portion, the terminal tail portions extending out from said body base portion and the terminal contact portions being disposed along said upstanding wall portion, and said difference in said first and second widths of said insulative body portion defining a cavity when said terminal assembly is inserted into said connector housing opening, the cavity receiving a portion of another terminal assembly of an opposing, mating connector.